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For Release DECEMBER 22, 1961

Of the six cases in Virginia, two were tried and found guilty, two pleaded guilty, one was acquitted, and one remains to be tried. One person was sentenced to one year. All other jail sentences were suspended.

North Carolina had five cases. Three of these pleaded guilty and were fined, one was given a one-year jail sentence, and one is awaiting trial.

Evidence gathered over a period of two and a half years through undercover operations by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife's Criminal Investigator led to the roundup. More than 5,000 wild ducks and geese were purchased for evidence by the undercover agent who posed as a peanut salesman during the operation.

The investigation by the Bureau resulted from numerous complaints that market hunting was prevalent and had reached serious proportions in certain areas.

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